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REMARKS

Applicants hereby reply to the Office Action mailed on September 3, 2004 within the shortened statutory three month period for response. Claims 1-23 were pending in the application and the Examiner rejects claims 1-23. Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, Applicants amend independent claims 1 and 12, and adds new claim 24. As such, claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. No new matter is added by these amendments.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-23 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dabney (6,643,663) in view of Plantz et al (6,088,702) and in further view of Bernado et al (6,308,188). Specifically, the Examiner states that "while the combined system of Dabney and Plantz, discloses the invention substantially as claims discussed above, it does not explicitly disclose editing webpage content, wherein said webpage content is in accordance with template rules defined by table structure." Examiner further states that "editing webpage content, wherein said webpage content is in accordance with template rules defined by table structure is well known in the art as evidenced by Bernado." Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

In general, Bernado is limited to a system for managing webpage production within a distributed environment where various members of an enterprise may view, edit and authorize content. While Bernado discloses assigning users' roles and implementing security controls, Bernado does not disclose implementing security controls at the content level where privileges may be applied to individual cells within a template. For example, a single webpage may contain a table with one cell designated for company news, one cell for seminar schedules and another cell for product spotlights. It would be advantageous to have the capability to assign editing privileges to the varying content cells. Therefore, a content editor who is responsible for maintaining company news, such as a public relations official, may add or modify text within that cell, but would be restricted from editing content within any of the other table cells. Modifying text within a cell provides an additional layer of security. Therefore, Bernado does not disclose or suggest " defining content modification privileges for at least one cell of said table structure" as similarly recited by independent claims 1 and 12.

Further, neither of the cited references disclose or suggest creating and editing individual content components through a workflow. In other words, the references do not disclose a plurality of webpage components with each traversing various workflows. For example, a

webpage may consist of any number of reusable content components such as, for example, headers, footers, navigation tools, search tools and the like. Authoring and/or editing content components individually may enable greater efficiency in executing the creation of new pages or the modification of existing webpages. For example, a legal department for a corporation may create, approve and publish a footer containing a legal disclaimer to the database of the system. This may be done independently from any specific webpage. Later, in constructing or editing webpages through the workflow, an author can retrieve the approved footer content element to include within the webpage. Independence of content elements may prove beneficial in enforcing policy compliance, ensuring uniformity, and eliminating task redundancy.

Dabney is limited to creating webpage content and storing webpage content within a database; however, it does not disclose a process for routing content elements individually for later authorization and storage in a database. Further, Dabney does not disclose the reuse of pre-authorized content elements among any number of webpages.

Plantz is limited to a group publishing system for authoring documents in a distributed environment by routing documents in an HTML format. Plantz does not disclose or suggest routing webpage content for authorization and posting to an Internet website. Further, Plantz does not disclose routing content elements individually through a workflow process followed by authorization and storage of content elements.

Bernado is limited to creating and editing a webpage by routing an HTML webpage through various steps in a defined workflow. However, this routing process can be less efficient and more time consuming than routing components individually where each component may traverse a workflow in parallel or be created and stored within a database to be used. When each component obtains final approval, it can be assembled into a finished HTML page that can be published to an Internet server. Further, Bernado is limited to storing templates in a database; however, Bernado fails to disclose storing content elements which have been individually approved through a workflow.

Neither Dabney, Plantz, nor Bernado disclose or suggest a method for "interfacing an author with said workflow application to at least one of edit and provide at least one webpage content element, wherein said at least one webpage content element is configured to be combined with a plurality of other webpage content elements" or "interfacing at least one database with said workflow application to store said at least one webpage content element,

wherein said at least one webpage element is configured to be inserted into a webpage" as recited by new independent claim 24.

The Examiner also rejects claims 2-11 and 12-23 which depend from independent claims 1 and 12. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. Applicant asserts that dependent claims 2-11 and 12-23 are differentiated from the cited prior art for at least the same reasons as set forth above for differentiating independent claims 1 and 12 from the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. No new matter is added in this Response. Reconsideration of the application is thus requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2814. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. Applicants invites the Office to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response or the present application in general.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 29, 2004   By:

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